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WILD GEESE NESTING IN TREES.—While in Greeley, Colorado, last summer, Mr. Louis Wyatt told me that he had seen wild geese nesting in large cottonwood trees on Snake River, a branch of the Yampah or Bear River, west of the Rocky Mountain range, in Colorado, at a point bearing a little north of west of Greeley, Colorado. This is the only instance published, I believe, of this habit as observed in Colorado. Dr. Coues, in his "Birds of the Northwest," states that it "nests in various parts of the Upper Missouri and Yellowstone regions *in trees*."—*A. S. Packard, Jr.*

RATE OF GROWTH OF THE BARNACLE.—Upon taking up, Nov. 17, a post to which my boat was moored, and which was put down at low-water mark April 5th, 1877, in Salem harbor, I found numerous barnacles (*Balanus balanoides*) living and of nearly full size, being four-tenths of an inch in diameter and about two-tenths high. With them were small *Fucus vesiculosus*, the largest one of which was about three inches in length. The post was a new one and had not been used the year previous. A number of similar observations will be found in Darwin's work on barnacles.—*A. S. Packard, Jr.*

ANTHROPOLOGY.

THE ARCHÆOLOGY OF THE PACIFIC COAST.—The Rev. Stephen Bowers has just completed an archæological exploration along the Pacific Slope for Major J. W. Powell, who is in charge of the Survey of the Rocky Mountain Region. During the six months of his labors, Mr. Bowers examined one hundred and fifty miles of the southern coast of California, and the inland country drained by the three streams, Santa Iñez River, Sisquoc River, and Cuyama River. He also visited San Miguel and Santa Cruz Islands, having previously explored Santa Rosa Island for the Smithsonian Institution. The results of his last and most important expedition are between five and six tons of antiquities.

The collections obtained consist of the following objects: Ollas of crystalized talc; *tortilla* or millstones of the same material; arrow-smoothers of the same material; mortars and pestles of sandstone (some of the latter finely wrought and over two feet in length); cups of serpentine; pipes of indurated talc and other material; charms or amulets of talc, etc.; perforated discs of serpentine, sandstone, etc.; spear-points and arrow-heads; knives of chert; vast quantities of shell ornaments, and beads, in great variety; stone tubes, etc.

The perforated discs or "stone rings or doughnuts" Mr. Paul Schumacher believed to have been employed to give weight to the wooden spades with which the ancient pits or graves were dug. This attempt to designate their use is as clever as his inference is improbable. The rings are usually so light in weight as to be of no value in this respect, and in order to be serviceable as weights they would be too bulky for use. They weigh from a few ounces

to several pounds. A more plausible explanation of their use is the one Mr. Bowers advances: he says, "Those of pyramidal form were doubtless used in spinning, while others were used in games."
—E. A. BARBER.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL NEWS.—It has been impossible to obtain a programme of the German Scientific Association, but reports of two very interesting communications have reached us. Professor Haeckel's address on the evolution theory of the present day in its relation to science in general was an earnest reiteration of his theory of inheritance and adaptation, applying it to moral and mental phenomena. Professor Virchow read a paper On the Liberty of Science in Modern Thought. He congratulated his fellow workers that science had now obtained perfect liberty, and at the same time warned them not to lose their influence by misusing it. He advocated the introduction of scientific instruction into the schools, but thought that great care should be used to introduce the results of science, and not mere unsubstantial theories such as the genealogical system of Professor Haeckel.

The second international congress of Américanistes was held at Luxemburg, September 10th–13th. Papers on the mound builders and Pueblos were read by Messrs Barber, Robertson, Gillman, Peet, and Force; on the antiquities of Greenland and the primitive habitat of the Eskimo by Messrs. Waldemar Schmidt and Rink; on hieroglyphics and ancient culture, by Leon de Rosny, Hyde Clarke, Maladier de Montjau, Allen Schwab, Malte-Brun, Ttronck, Abbé Pipart, Dr. Leemans, etc.; on philology, by Messrs. Henry, Moore and Lucien Adams; on history, by Messrs. Brauvoisin and Nadal; on the stone age, by M. Guimet. The next congress will be held in Brussels in 1879.

Occasionally papers of great value to anthropologists appear in journals not wholly devoted to their science. Among these *La Revue Scientifique* is to be specially mentioned. In the number for January 13, 1877, M. Jouan writes upon Les Monuments polynesiens; in that for February 3d, M. Quatrefages has a long paper reviewing that portion of his late work, *L'Espèce humaine*, which refers to fossil man. The whole work in favorably noticed in the number for March 4th, by M. W. Ferrier. In the numbers for May 5th and 12th, Carl Vogt discusses at length the origin of man. The learned author takes issue with both Haeckel and Quatrefages, and, while advocating evolution, maintains that the former has erred quite as far in knowing too much as the latter has in his "Je ne sais pas rien." The same periodical for September contains quite full reports of the French Association.

Two fields of anthropological research are so fully occupied at the present time that one almost despairs of keeping the run of titles even. We refer to the seat of war and British India. Happily the latter field is well worked in Trübner's last catalogue, to which all must refer who would become familiar with the subject. The work of D. Mackenzie Wallace on Russia, of W. R. London

on Savage and Civilized Russia, and of Russell on Russian Wars with Turkey cannot be omitted from the list of those who wish to read up on the seat of war.

The Tenth Report of the Peabody Museum is one of the most interesting in the series. We have already referred to Dr. Abbott's paper. Those of Professor Andrews and Admiral F. Bandelier are worthy of careful study.

Two articles have appeared in the New York *Nation* concerning the Nes Percés in the numbers for July 12th and August 2d. The same journal, September 6th, treats of the Indian policy of Canada and of the United States.

The archæological section of the Academy of Sciences at St. Louis, has published a caution to collectors against imitations of pottery, etc., from the mounds. The same difficulty has arisen in England and Germany with reference to antiquities within their own borders and from the East: notably, Flint Jack, the Shapira collection of Moabite pottery, and the carvings from the Thurigen Cave, near Schaffhausen in Switzerland. Colonel Whittlesey has done good service in exposing frauds in hieroglyphics, and Mr. J. D. Moody of Mendota, Illinois, sends a pamphlet of four pages, attacking the authenticity of the Rockford Tablet. No one should be more zealous than the archæologists themselves in unearthing everything of the kind, since no amount of doubtful material will aid the truth in the least.—O. T. MASON, Washington, D. C.

GEOLOGY AND PALÆONTOLOGY.

THE SAURIANS OF THE DAKOTA EPOCH.—Professor Cope has recently described two additional species of terrestrial saurians from the Dakota rocks of Colorado, which rival the *Camarasaurus supremus* in dimensions. They are referred to a new genus which resembles *Camarasaurus* in the chambered character of the vertebral centra, and in the peculiar interlocking articulation of the neural arches, but differ from it in the amphicœlous character of the centra and the form of the neural spine, which is longitudinal instead of transverse. The articulation of the neural arches alluded to is very peculiar, and is effected by the presence of a new vertebral element which Professor Cope calls a hyposphe. It is an inverted wedge which is attached to the posterior zygapophyses below them by a median vertical plate of bone. This plate enters a deep fissure between the anterior zygapophyses and it results that the latter are tightly embraced between the posterior zygapophyses above, and the hyposphe below. This structure is the reverse of that of the zygosphen articulation.

The new genus is called *Amphicœlias*, and the species *A. altus* and *A. latus*. The length of the femur of the former is six feet two inches, a little exceeding that of the *Camarasaurus supremus*, but it is more slender. The elevation of a dorsal vertebra is three feet two inches. The *A. latus* is characterized by robustness, as the *A. altus* is by elongation of parts. A caudal vertebral cen-